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President asks for support of budget cuts

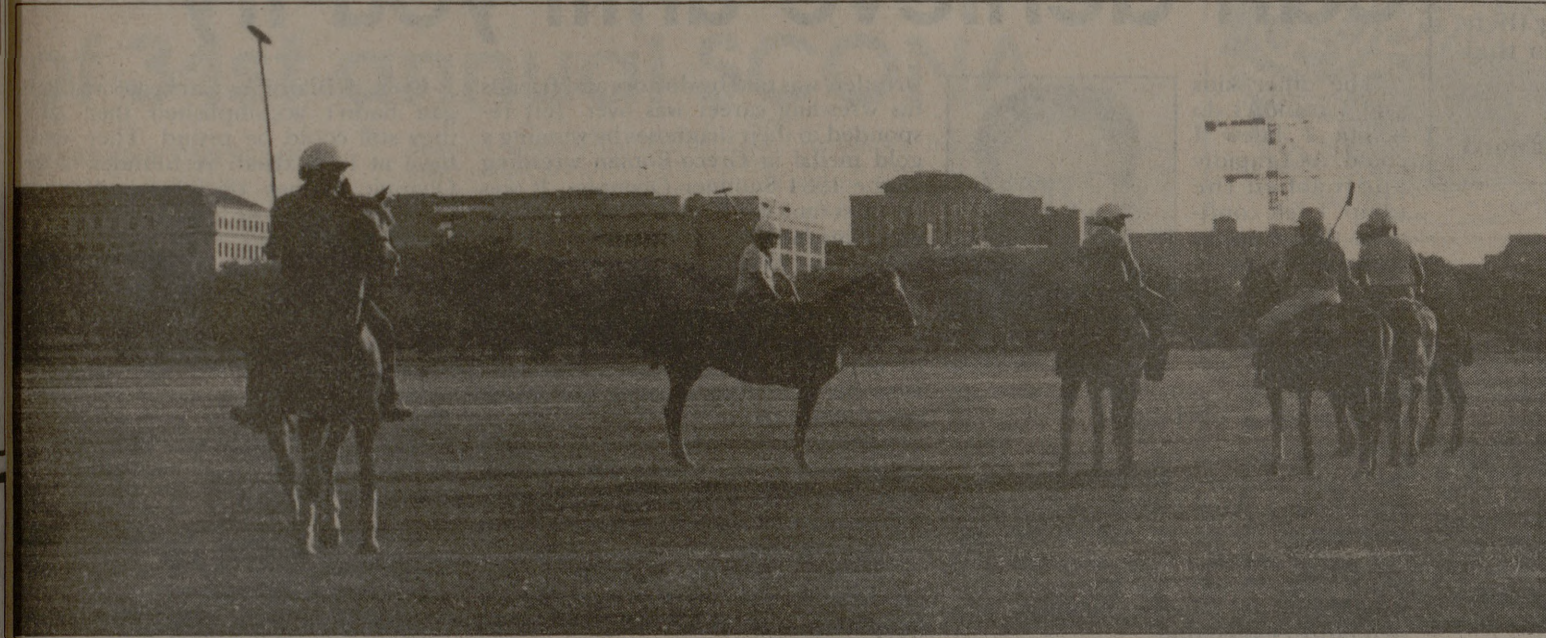
Associated Press
WASHINGTON — President Reagan implored Americans on Wednesday night to deluge Congress — “by phone, wire or mailgram” — with support for a Republican budget that would trim Social Security increases and kill popular programs.
In his speech, Reagan told Americans the nation faces a serious problem that demands immediate attention.
“Our future is too precious to permit this crucial effort to be picked apart, piece by piece, by the special interest groups,” he said.

In a nationally broadcast address from the Oval Office, the president said: “We stand at a crossroads. The hour is late. The task is large. The stakes are momentous. I ask you to join us in making your voices heard in the Senate this week and later in the House.”
Reagan quoted John F. Kennedy’s famous inaugural appeal: “Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country.”
The speech came as the Senate postponed until Thursday the beginning of debate on the budget package that both Reagan and Sen-

ate Republican leaders have endorsed.
With the national debt approaching \$2 trillion, Reagan said the per capita debt amounts to nearly \$8,000 for each American and is increasing about \$1,000 per person each year. The interest on the debt amounts to \$155 billion now, he added.
Reagan’s plan would slash nearly \$300 billion from expected deficits over three years without raising taxes.
The goal is to bring the deficit below \$100 billion by 1988 without raising taxes, he said.

With Congress deeply divided over how to cut massive deficits, Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole, R-Kan., said in advance of Reagan’s address:
“I think he needs to scare us a bit. We’re all running around like we have a big (budget) surplus — don’t cut this, don’t cut that.”
The Republican program would eliminate, freeze or reduce dozens of popular domestic programs, including Amtrak, the Small Business Administration and farm subsidies.
Senate Minority Leader Robert C. Byrd of West Virginia, delivering a broadcast Democratic response,

claimed Reagan has not offered a solid financial plan for America’s future.
“His program shortchanges the future, by seriously undermining education and medical and scientific research . . . and breaks his own promises to our nation’s elderly,” Byrd said, referring to Reagan’s campaign statements opposing Social Security benefit cuts.
Byrd said that Democrats “want to address the deficit problem in a fair way that inspires the faith of our people and reassures their perceptions about the fairness of their government.”
Reagan insisted that the solution to America’s economic problems is to cut away at government spending. He said:
“All the progress, all the good we’ve accomplished so far and all our dreams for the future could be wrecked if we do not overcome our one giant obstacle. The simple truth is, no matter how hard you work, no matter how strong this economy grows, no matter how much more tax money comes to Washington, it won’t amount to a hill of beans if government won’t curb its endless appetite to spend.”



Polo Anyone?

Photo by TESS MOORE

Those passing through the main entrance to campus may see the Texas A&M Polo Team scrimmaging. The team has been taking advantage of the warm weather, practicing on the fields opposite the A&M golf course.

Student Senate elects Johnson as new speaker

By JERRY OSLIN
Staff Writer

The Student Senate elected a new speaker and speaker pro tem for the 1985-86 school year Wednesday night.
Laurie Johnson, the Senate’s new speaker, said the Senate needs to develop new ideas and a stronger course of action.
Johnson said the Senate needs to communicate more effectively with the student body.
“The legislative branch cannot depend on the executive branch or The Battalion for getting their message out,” Johnson said.
The Senate must explain the issues more thoroughly and completely to the student body, Johnson said.

Johnson said the Senate should establish a new program that would enable the student body to have more input in the Student Senate.
Under Johnson’s plan, students would be able to write down their ideas and opinions on forms offered by Student Government. A senator representing the student would then be assigned to research the idea and bring it to the Senate in the form of a bill.
Miles Bradshaw, the new speaker pro tem, said the Senate needs to convince the student body and the administration that it can make a difference.
In other business, the Senate passed a resolution calling on the federal and state governments to place a greater priority on higher

education and to guarantee an opportunity for all students to be able to pursue higher education.
James Cleary, who introduced the resolution on behalf of the academic affairs committee, said a copy of the resolution should be sent to the federal and state representatives and senators of the Bryan-College Station area.
Cleary said students need to be heard in the state and federal governments because “college students have been getting the short end of the stick.”

The Senate also approved several appointments to the executive branch of Student Government.
People approved were: Lindsey Dingmore, executive vice president; Michael O’Quinn, director of the Legislative Study Group; Madelon Yanta, Judicial Board Chairman; Maritza Pena, director of programs; Michele Rogers, director of communications; Linda Biel, director of administration; and Matt McKay, comptroller.
Also approved were: Janet Netardus, head of the Conference on Student Government Associations; Jeffrey P. Smith, head of the traditions council; Susan Aycok, head of the Muster committee; Amy Lister, head of Parents’ Weekend committee; Mark Maniha, head of the Big Event committee; Kathy Jolly, United Way representative; Keith Kornfuehrer, head of student relations; Marae Lehnert, head of internal relations; and Alan Moore and Chris Gavras, co-commissioners of the election commission.

Senate delays vote on tuition; House may fund A&M-Galveston

Associated Press
AUSTIN — The Senate held off on a final vote on a tuition increase Wednesday. A \$279 million tuition increase had been tentatively approved Tuesday on an 18-11 vote, and final passage had been expected.
Also on Wednesday, the House tentatively approved a budget which included funding for Texas A&M University at Galveston.
Sen. Gonzalo Barrientos said, the opposition to the tuition increase

was solid — “men of steel,” he joked — and could block a final vote.
Barrientos, D-Austin, said to soften the opposition amendments were being readied that would, in effect, raise tuition for only two years and would allow colleges to waive tuition for certain students.
The bill tentatively approved would triple resident tuition this fall to \$12 per semester hour. Out-of-state students also would pay three times as much, or \$120 per semester hour. The second year, residents would pay \$16 a semester hour, and

non-residents the same \$120.
In the House, tentative approval was given to a \$36.4 billion state budget for 1986-87, a spending plan that Speaker Gib Lewis said can be paid for without raising taxes.
“We addressed the needs for the next biennium and certainly this will cut off any need for a tax increase,” Lewis said.
The House on Tuesday approved a fee-hike bill that would help balance the budget by bringing the state an additional \$106 million over the next two years. That package in-

New funds needed with decreasing oil and gas revenues

Editor’s note: This is the second article in a two-part series about the oil industry and how it affects the state’s economy.
By KEVIN INDA & TRENT LEOPOLD
Staff Writers
The wizards in Austin have looked in their crystal ball and they don’t like what they see.
In 1978, revenues from oil and gas taxes totaled more than \$955 million. In 1980, oil and gas taxes totaled more than \$1.5 billion. In 1985, they are expected to reach \$2.2 billion. But Comptroller Bob Bullock is estimating that oil and gas taxes will generate only \$1.8 billion in 1986.
Considering that oil and gas severance taxes make up about 30 percent of Texas’ tax revenue, that expected \$400 million decrease in fiscal 1986 revenue will be a major jolt to the state’s pay-as-you-go budget.
The decreases in oil and gas tax revenues are the major reason

Time capsule put in Albritton Tower

By TRENT LEOPOLD
Staff Writer
What will people think about Texas A&M 91 years from now?
That’s hard to say now. But thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Ford D. Albritton Jr. of Dallas, the folks around in 2076 will be able to discover what life was like in 1985 when they open a time capsule which was installed at the base of the Albritton Tower Wednesday.
The capsule was put inside the cornerstone of the 138-foot-high Albritton Tower during a ceremony that began shortly after 11 a.m. About 35 people witnessed the event.
When the capsule arrived at the site about 11:03 a.m., Albritton expressed his satisfaction as he stood at the west base of the tower.
“It’s a beautiful job,” he said as he examined the shiny rectangular capsule. “Don’t suppose there is a chance they slipped something extra in here. That would be great.”
Albritton and Texas A&M President Frank Vandiver then walked north to the cornerstone which had been taken out of the tower’s base so the capsule could be inserted.
Vandiver thanked Albritton for the capsule and tower. “Thank you again for thinking of us and the University,” he said.
Albritton and Vandiver slid the capsule into the cornerstone at 11:07



Photo by FRANK IRWIN

Ford D. Albritton (left), Dr. Frank Vandiver and Nelson Martz put the Albritton Tower cornerstone into place.
a.m. They shook hands and said they would make a date to be back in the future.
At 11:11 a.m. Nelson Martz and

The cornerstone was placed on five sections of steel pipe so it could easily be pushed back into the base of the tower. Vandiver and Albritton gave the stone a push but Martz and Sanford had to use a crowbar to get the stone back in place.
Martz and Sanford said they were “real honored” to be a part of the capsule installation. “We’ve worked in all of it all the way,” Sanford said.
Albritton said the time capsule was part of the original plans for the tower.
The capsule includes a 1984 Class Ring bearing the inscription: “Costs \$346.20 troy ounce Ring Price \$222.12 -- 11-15-84.”
Other items in the capsule are: a cassette tape of the Texas Aggie Band, a cassette tape of the Singing Cadets, Corps of Cadets brass, integrated circuit designs done by undergraduate and graduate students in the Electrical Engineering department, a videotape, various slide photographs and written material on microfiche.
The written material, which includes a pictorial history of Texas A&M, was reproduced on microfiche to save space, Albritton said. A device is being included to enable the people who open the capsule to read the information.

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